

Appl. No. 10/534,318
 Amendment and/or Response
 Reply to Office action of 3 September 2008

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REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application and are objected to for formal matters, but deemed by the Examiner as allowable if corrected. The Office action states that prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *ex parte Quayle*.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

Claims are amended for non-statutory reasons: to correct one or more informalities or formal matters noted by the Examiner, remove unnecessary dash marks, and/or to replace European-style claim phraseology with American-style claim language. The claims are not narrowed in scope and no new matter is added.

The Office action objects to the specification for informalities and suggests that the title "Circuit arrangement" should be changed to --CIRCUIT ARRANGEMENT FOR OPERATING A HIGH PRESSURE DISCHARGE LAMP--. Applicants have done so herein.

The Office action also objects to the disclosure for lacking section headings under 37 CFR 1.77(b). Applicants respectfully traverse this objection. Applicants prefer not to add section headings, for consistency with the parent application and other national stage applications that may have been filed in various countries from the parent international application. Such section headings are not statutorily required for filing a non-provisional patent application under 35 USC 111(a), but per 37 CFR 1.51(d) are only guidelines that are suggested for applicant's use. They are not mandatory, and in fact when Rule 77 was amended in 1996 (61 FR 42790, Aug. 19, 1996), Bruce A. Lehman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, stated in the Official Gazette:

"Section 1.77 is permissive rather than mandatory. Section 1.77 merely expresses the Office's preference for the arrangement of the application elements. The Office may advise an applicant that the application does not comply with the format set forth in 1.77, and suggest this format for the applicant's

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consideration; however, the Office will not require any application to comply with the format set forth in 1.77."

Miscellaneous Changes in Patent Practice, Response to comments 17 and 18 (Official Gazette, August 13, 1996) [Docket No: 950620 52-6014-02] RIN 0651-AA75. Accordingly, since there is no statutory requirement to insert content headings into the specification, and the Office has stated it will not require any application to comply with the [suggested] format, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Applicants note that the Private PAIR page at the USPTO, "Application Data" section, as well as the Electronic Acknowledgment Receipt sent by the Office, are incorrect in showing the title as "Magnetic resonance imaging system with a plurality of transmit coils." There is also a published patent application, US 2006/0108998 A1, with apparently the same serial number, 10/534,318 (see appended page), but the specification shown is not the current application's specification. Can the Examiner shed some light on this?

All outstanding substantive issues having been resolved, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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US 2006/0108998A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication****Van Zundert et al.**(10) Pub. No.: **US 2006/0108998 A1**(43) Pub. Date: **May 25, 2006**(54) **MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING
SYSTEM WITH A PLURALITY OF
TRANSMIT COILS****Publication Classification**(51) Int. Cl. **G01N 24/00** (2006.01)(52) U.S. Cl. **324/200**(76) Inventors: **Roy Elendrik Anna Maria Van
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The invention relates to an MRI system (1) for nuclear magnetic resonance imaging which comprises a plurality of transmit coils (11, 12). Each coil receives a coil drive signal (SD1, SD2). The respective coil drive signals have the same shape, but may have different amplitude and phase, controlled by a control unit (103) on the basis of characteristic information in a memory (104) as well as user input information. The control unit is designed to set the respective amplitudes and phases in such a way that the resultant overall B1 field is as homogeneous as possible in a volume of interest.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/534,318**(22) PCT Filed: **Nov. 6, 2003**(86) PCT No.: **PCT/IB03/05015**